

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 04363 062009Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-14 AGRE-00 CEA-01 COME-00
FRB-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /124 W
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R 061943Z MAR 78
FM AEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 04363

USEEC

DEPT PASS AID/SFWA - HUNTER FARNHAM

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EEC, XA
SUBJECT: EC EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR THE
SAHEL

1. MARCH 3, EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL (GERARD MOLINIER) IN
CHARGE OF LOME CONVENTION EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE,
DESCRIBED TO MISSION OFFICER COMMISSION'S PLANS FOR NON-
FOOD COMMODITY DROUGHT RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS
OF SENEGAL, MALI, MAURITANIA, GUINEA-BISSAU AND THE
GAMBIA IN COMING MONTHS. FIRST TRANCHE OF THIS AID
(AMOUNTING TO SOME 300,000 UNITS OF ACCOUNT PER
RECIPIENT COUNTRY) REPORTEDLY WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY EC
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 04363 062009Z

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON SHORTLY. (ONE UNIT OF
ACCOUNT APPROXIMATELY \$1.25.) COMMODITIES INVOLVED
INCLUDE ANIMAL FEED AND FERTILIZERS. MOLINIER ALSO
INDICATED THAT COMMISSION IS CONSIDERING SPECIAL AID IN
FAVOR OF GUINEA (CONAKRY), BUT THAT PRIOR TO ANY DECISION
ON THIS QUESTION A TEAM OF EDF OFFICIALS WOULD VISIT
GUINEA TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS.

2. ALTHOUGH EMERGENCY AID UNDER LOME CONVENTION NOMINALLY REQUIRES APPROVAL OF EC COUNCIL'S EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF) COMMITTEE, COMMISSION MAY ACT ON ITS OWN AUTHORITY UP TO THE LIMITS EXPRESSED IN PARA ONE ABOVE, I.E., 300,000 UNITS OF ACCOUNT PER RECIPIENT. GIVEN URGENCY OF SAHELIAN NEEDS, TOTAL COMMUNITY EMERGENCY AID, ESTIMATED AT SOME 13 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT, WILL BE PROVIDED IN TWO STAGES. FIRST TRANCHE FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY IN COMING WEEKS AND SECOND, IF APPROVED BY EDF COMMITTEE, FOR DELIVERY AFTER APRIL 1978.

3. MOLINIER ALSO RAISED WITH MISSION OFFICER POSSIBILITY OF COORDINATING EC DROUGHT RELIEF MEASURES WITH USAID AND SUGGESTED AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH OFFICIALS IN AID/SFWA EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH USEC CHANNEL. TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT, MOLINIER SAID, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE INFORMATION ON VOLUME AND TYPES OF US NON-FOOD COMMODITY ASSISTANCE FOR SAHEL PROGRAMMED FOR SHORT TO MEDIUM-TERM FUTURE.

4. MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO INITIATE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH CONCERNED COMMISSION OFFICIALS, AND WILL PASS TO COMMISSION ANY INFORMATION ON INTENDED USAID MEASURES TRANSMITTED TO US BY WASHINGTON. HINTON

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